# **PackBot**

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**PackBot** is a series of military robots by iRobot. More than 2000 were used in Iraq and Afghanistan.<sup>[1]</sup> PackBots were the first robots to enter the damaged Fukushima nuclear plant after the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami.<sup>[2]</sup> As of November 2014, the U.S. Army is refurbishing 224 iRobot 510 robots.<sup>[3]</sup>

# Contents

- 1 Current PackBot 510 variants
- 2 Previous PackBot variants
- 3 See also
- 4 References
- 5 External links



PackBot being demonstrated by the French military

#### **Current PackBot 510 variants**

PackBot 510 is the current base model. It uses a videogame-style hand controller to make it more familiar to young operators. Configurations include:

- PackBot 510 with EOD Bomb Disposal Kit designed for improvised explosive device identification and disposal.
- PackBot 510 with Fast Tactical Maneuvering Kit designed for infantry troops tasked with improvised explosive device inspection. This is a lighter weight robot.
- PackBot 510 with First Responder Kit designed to help SWAT teams and other first responders with situational awareness.
- PackBot 510 with HazMat Detection Kit collects air samples to detect chemical and radiological agents.
- PackBot 510 with Fido utilizes the Fido Explosives Detector from ICx Technologies as a payload in order to "sniff" out explosive materials. With the Fido, the PackBot now has the capability of
  - locating explosive devices and subsequently disarming them using on-board robotic capabilities.<sup>[4]</sup>
- PackBot 510 with REDOWL Sniper Detection Kit utilizes the Acoustic Direction Finder from BioMimetic Systems to localize gunshots with azimuth, elevation, and range. [5]
- RC2 U.S. Marine Corps version of the 510 PackBot with a longer and stronger arm, more cameras, communications variations, and better track propulsion.<sup>[6]</sup>



■ **PackBot Scout** is the basic configuration. It has five payload bays for assignable purposes and can be dropped from a height of six feet (1.83m) onto concrete without being damaged. The Packbot scout version weighs about 40 pounds (18 kg).



A U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician trains on iRobot's PCC, one of the remote control operation devices used to operate the Packbot.

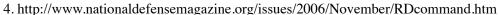
- PackBot Explorer has a camera head equipped with multiple cameras, laser pointers, audio and other sensors.
- PackBot EOD (explosive-ordnance disposal) can be controlled by radio or wired control to handle situations involving potential explosives, thereby reducing the risk of personal injury.

### See also

- Robot
- Military robot
- Small Unmanned Ground Vehicle
- Foster-Miller TALON

#### References

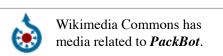
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- 2. Nakata, Hiroko (2012-01-06). "Domestic robots failed to ride to rescue after No. 1 plant blew". *The Japan Times*. Retrieved January 9, 2012.
- 3. US Army Works Toward Single Ground Robot (http://www.defensenews.com/article/20141115/DEFREG02/311150033/US-Army-Works-Toward-Single-Ground-Robot?odyssey=mod\_sectionstories) Defensenews.com, 15 November 2014



- 5. http://www.irobot.com/sp.cfm?pageid=314
- 6. Marines happily recycle Army bots (http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/article/20140419/NEWS04/304190028/Marines-happily-recycle-Army-bots) MarineCorpstimes.com, 19 April 2014

### **External links**

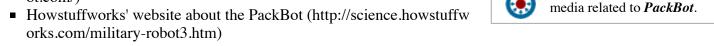
Website of iRobot, the manufacturer of the PackBot (http://www.irob ot.com/)



A U.S. Navy Sailor assigned to an

explosive ordnance disposal team

poses beside a PackBot.



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